

THE PACIFIC Commercial Advertiser

WALTER G. SMITH, EDITOR

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A FRUITLESS QUEST.

What is the use of asking the United States to alter a national policy to suit local conditions? Such an undertaking is not only a waste of time but it gives the authorities at Washington a very inadequate idea of the intelligence and the Americanism of the petitioners.

The Advertiser felt this when the community was urging Congress, through some of its commercial bodies, to return, for Territorial use, the receipts of the Federal custom house in Hawaii. Ethically speaking, we had a good plea; but legally, economically and politically speaking, we had no ground to stand on. The whole United States looks to the customs for the bulk of its revenue and any port of entry, subject to the American tariff laws, is not a port of a given locality but a port of the United States and must be treated as such. If the precedent were established of giving Hawaii the revenue of the custom houses within its borders, then California could rightfully demand the similar revenues of San Francisco, Humboldt Bay, Los Angeles and San Diego, and so on around the Gulf and Atlantic coasts. There can be no special privileges in the American tariff system, unless coupled with some form of alien reciprocity; the national laws must deal with all alike, and this without reference to any local hardships which may have been counted in the price of their benefits.

One fruitless experience in trying to make the Federal tariff statutes partial in their application ought to have been enough; but now we find the Chamber of Commerce memorializing Congress to exempt this Territory from the scope and operation of the navigation laws. Surely the Chamber has not stopped to think. Naturally those interested in foreign ocean steam traffic between here and San Francisco and British Columbia do not like to have their lines deprived of local or "coast-wise" traffic which American competing lines are free to enjoy. For this feeling, the Advertiser cannot blame them; and it is even ready to admit that this community would be better off if they could have their way. But they can't and the Chamber weakens its influence in asking, in their behalf, for an impossible, and what Congress will regard as an unpatriotic concession. The navigation laws of the United States are a basic part of the national policy of protection which cannot be broken into without destroying the whole system? The laws were designed to protect American shipping from cheap foreign competition; to encourage the building of American merchantmen; to preserve the home ocean carrying trade to our own citizens; in short to put aliens at just such a disadvantage as they are experiencing in the American coastwise traffic and to induce Americans to compete with them and if possible take their places. That being true, Congress is not going to heed complaints, obviously made in the interests of a foreign carrying trade, however much a single American community might be benefited by the course proposed.

A HALL OF RECORDS.

It may be that fireproof halls of archives cost a great deal of money in large cities, but that is no reason why there should be a similar extravagance here. Hawaii, in contemplating a structure in the back yard of the Judiciary building at Honolulu, for the safe preservation of Government records, does not concur in a massive pile of granite and chilled steel, but would be satisfied with a very ordinary fireproof storeroom indeed. For example a small building of double brick walls, with a thick iron roof and concrete floor, ventilation arranged without windows, a single door of iron, and the interior of the structure to contain such safes as are now used to hold archives or, if not, iron-sheathed closets—woodwork being everywhere eliminated—would answer the needs of the Territory very well. Light could be supplied by electrical appliances installed in such a way that wires could not possibly be crossed. Such a building would look well enough for a back-yard and if put well away from the Judiciary building would not suffer from the burning of the latter edifice.

The Legislature was prodigal enough to appropriate \$75,000 from the loan fund for a Hall of Records—enough money to build a hotel. In the Advertiser's opinion \$25,000 of that money would build all the Hall of Records Hawaii needs, leaving \$50,000 for other purposes. Of course the figure does not contemplate county offices in connection with the archive department but simply a fireproof storehouse.

This is an era of economy and here is a chance to prove it.

Hanna has Ohio lined up behind him like a stone wall. When there is a chance to put an Ohio man into the Presidency, local factions are forgotten and they all turn in. Uncle Mark needn't worry about the Buckeyes; they are for him to the last appetite.

THE IAUKEA BOND.

Mr. Iaukea's bond is not acceptable to the Supervisors because, although the signers, collectively, are good for many times \$150,000, they have not legally qualified each in double that amount. In an official opinion rendered by the District Attorney, Mr. Wm. T. Rawlins, it is pointed out that the law requires that each bondsman "respectively" shall be responsible for "all" funds which may come into the bonded official's hands by virtue of his office. As the largest amount likely to be in the Assessor's keeping at any given time is put at \$150,000, a bond in double that amount is required and, under the law, each surety must pledge himself to make the entire sum good in case of loss.

Hard as this bears on the particular case of Mr. Iaukea it is, but fair play to the taxpayers. The Iaukea bond lists a large number of people in sums ranging from \$5000 to \$75,000. At any time misfortune might visit some of the signers without the Supervisors being aware of the fact. In that event the value of the bond would decrease proportionately; but if each one became responsible for the full amount, meeting the property tests, two or three of them might become insolvent without affecting the value of the surety as a whole. Public interests require, in bonding matters, that the very strongest guarantees be provided and the wisdom of experience suggests that the responsibility of bondsmen for principals be equally shared. Hence the law which Mr. Rawlins so faithfully interprets. If this law did not exist or if it stood as Mr. Iaukea chooses to think, an official bonded for \$10,000 might offer a thousand signers at \$10 apiece. Such a bond would be unwieldy and unsafe. Nothing like it is contemplated by the County Act; and the County Act is an instrument of whose sacred and inviolate character Mr. Iaukea has borne frequent and eloquent witness.

THE STATE OF COMMERCE.

The official figures of United States commerce for the month of November and for the eleven months ending with November, show a growth in exports of manufactures, but they do not show the expected increase in exports of iron and steel products. Imports of iron and steel manufactures, however, show a decrease in November, 1903, as compared with November, 1902, though for the entire eleven months the figures of iron and steel imports are slightly in excess of those of last year. Importations of other manufacturers' materials also show a slight decrease in November as compared with November of last year, but a marked increase when the eleven months ending with November are considered in comparison with the corresponding months of last year.

These figures of the commerce of the eleven months would seem to indicate that the total commerce of the United States during the year about to end will be greater than in any preceding year, but that the total exports will fall a few millions below those of 1900 and be about equal to those of 1901, but materially in excess of those of 1902, while the total imports will exceed those of any preceding year, and combined with the exports make the grand total of commerce more than in any earlier year; also that the exports of manufactures will exceed those of 1902 by several millions, but be somewhat below those of the record year, 1900, and perhaps 1901.

Sugar has been again forced down, this time to 3.375. Monday's prices were 3.50. The decline is not normal; it is the arbitrary action of the trust which, when Hawaii is out of the market, lets sugar approach a fair price to the seller and when this Territory comes into the market again, forces it down to a figure which leaves the plantations but a slight margin of profit.

If the Board of Agriculture is favorable to the return to the Territory of the unused 14,000 acre military tract near Wahiawa, a memorial to Secretary Taft, presented on his arrival here, might not come amiss. If he could be induced to recommend to Congress such a recession, the project would be helped half way to its goal.

In all the talk about army and navy preparation in the Far East it is surprising that so little has been said about the epistolary activity of the hostile powers. The brain work of the belligerents seems to have been largely employed in writing letters as in doing anything else.

Teddy make room for your Anti.

WHAT IS A COUGH?

A spasmodic effort to expel the mucus from the bronchial tubes. A cold causes a more abundant secretion of mucus, and when the lungs and bronchial tubes are inflamed, they are extremely sensitive to the irritation. Unless care is taken, the cold may result in pneumonia, which is swift and deadly. If the cold is a lingering one, the more leisurely but equally fatal consumption may set in. Do not neglect a cold or cough. Take Chamberlain's Cough Remedy. It always cures and cures quickly. Benson, Smith & Co., Ltd., Wholesale Agents sell it.

Half hourly cars up the Heights connect with Rapid Transit.

KONA ORPHANAGE DECEMBER REPORT

Kona Orphanage, Kailua, Hawaii, January 11, 1904.
Editor Advertiser: The following is the report of Kona Orphanage for the month of December, 1903:
Expenditures: Wages, \$28.00; salaries, \$180.00; food, \$83.17; clothing and bedding, \$9.10; furnishings, \$34.99; stock and chicken feed, \$36.39; lights and fuel, \$6.70; improvements, \$124.85; school supplies, \$1.25; incidentals, \$29.89; furniture, \$277.85; total, \$811.85.
Receipts: Mrs. O. M. Packard, New York, \$5.00; William Ellenberg, 50c.; Mrs. Helen Sinclair Robinson, Makaweli, Kauai, \$50.00; Mrs. Jane Sinclair Gay, Makaweli, Kauai, \$50.00; A Friend, \$5.00; Fourth Grade Kaakopua School, Honolulu, 75c.; Mrs. E. B. Monroe, New York, \$24.50; Kamehameha Christian Endeavor Society, \$5.00; Mr. Geo. F. Davies, \$10.00; Room 13, Kaahumanu School, \$4.00; Rose Piko, 50c.; Julia Piko, 50c.; Annie Piko, 50c.; Benita Piko, 50c.; Howard Deas, 50c.; Milward Deas, 50c.; money taken in at Orphanage, \$38.75; total, \$196.45.

Christmas presents were received from the following:

Kaakopua School, 198 garments, besides 13 books, 12 pairs of shoes, 11 hats, collars, cuffs, ribbons, neckties, lace, papers and pictures.

Fourth Grade Kaakopua School, 60 balls of popcorn, candy and sweet chocolate enough for all.

Mrs. Sarah Gilman, \$5.00 worth of walnuts.

Mrs. Greenwell, South Kona, 3 boxes of apples, 6 boxes of sweet crackers. Mrs. Greenwell made a large gift of sweet crackers a year ago, which through a mistake was credited to some one else.

Mrs. Elision, a box of clothing and toys.

Mr. and Mrs. P. M. Snodgrass, box of apples.

Mrs. S. N. Castle, 2 boxes of apples.

Mr. James Steiner, 25 neckties, 2 shirt waists, 3 pique dress skirts, 3 pairs of shoes, 2 capes, 1 baby dress, 1 boy's waist, 2 boys' suits, 1 undershirt, 5 pairs boys pants.

Miss Romana Ferreira, 44 garments, 1 hat, 2 caps, 2 pairs of shoes, 3 toy books, a doll and set of garden tools.

H. Hackfeld & Co., 122 1/2 yards of calico, 95 yards of lawn, 50 boys' hats, 4 boys' suits, 37 lbs. of almonds.

Mrs. Podmore, 2 1/2 dozen scrap books, Castle Home Children, papers.

A Friend, scraps for mending.

Miss Belle Johnson, 1 book for library, 2 song books, 1/2 dozen Christmas cards, Christmas books for two boys.

Holualoa School, 6 caps, 1 dress.

Miss Felker, a picture of Kaahumanu School, a dozen copies of "Maile Lehua," a private mailing card for each of the children for New Year's.

A Friend, a box of oranges.

Miss Lohry, a box of candy and a box of cookies.

Honolulu High School Pupils, 116 garments, 3 spools of cotton, 12 yards of muslin, 5 yards of calico, 4 boys' hats, 4 neckties, 1 book, 2 dozen hand-painted Christmas cards, 1 drawing slate, many papers and marbles, 1 top.

Mrs. Reist, 1 doll, 2 whistles, 1 harp.

Mrs. Clemm, 1 box of toys.

Mrs. Ventura, 1 box of toys.

Mrs. Benson, 1 box of clothing.

Mrs. Anna B. Tucker, 6 library books, 1/2 dozen music books, set of Prang's Shorter Course in Form Study and Drawing, December number of the "Friend."

A Friend, 6 1/2 yards of calico.

We all had a Merry Christmas. The children received many presents which were sent here last year and stored away till this Christmas, and Santa Claus brought them out and hung them on a tree. They had songs and recitations, and Santa Claus distributed the presents. They were all very happy.

Teacher and children join me in thanking all who sent presents.

Our happiness turned into sorrow.

Otto Ellenberg, who has been here nearly two years, and who had been sick for some time before Christmas, took his last Christmas day. He was very ill until the 29th at 2 o'clock, at which time he died. We buried him in the Episcopal graveyard at South Kona.

We are in need of money for next month. Have but \$3.65 in the treasury at present. Money for the Orphanage may be deposited at the banking house of Bishop & Co.

ALICE F. BEARD,
Manager Kona Orphanage.

The Secretary's Staff.

Secretary of the Territory A. L. C. Atkinson yesterday all but completed the organization of his office staff by making the following appointments:

Chief clerk, Miss Kate Kelley.

Territorial statistician, C. R. Buckland.

Messenger, Bernard H. Kelekolio.

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We are selling at the old price and will continue to do so, for some time, and as that price is as low as the lowest catalogue price from the States, it will pay you to make your purchases now, and right at home. Take our price list and compare it at your leisure, we know the result. Many patterns to select from, and no remittance with order.

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SPECIAL FOR THE NEW YEAR

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Regular price, 50 cents a dozen.

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